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Patent Docket No. 393032024300

Pated: November 16, 2005 Signature:

Beverly S. Carter

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

re Patent Application of:

Shinichi ITO et al.

Serial No.: 09/823,704

Filing Date: March 30, 2001

For: INFORMATION RETRIEVAL SYSTEM

AND INFORMATION RETRIEVAL

METHOD USING NETWORK

Examiner: E. P. Leroux

Group Art Unit: 2161

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 & 1.98

MS Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 and § 1.98, and with reference to the Information Disclosure Statement submitted to the U.S. Patent Office on August 31, 2005, enclosed is a copy of a Japanese office action (and its English translation) dated November 1, 2005 issued in a corresponding foreign application. The Examiner is requested to make this document of record.

The information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 and § 1.98 is not to be construed as a representation that: (i) a complete search has been made; (ii) additional information material to the examination of this application does not exist; (iii) the information, protocols, results and the like reported by third parties are accurate or enabling; or (iv) the above information constitutes prior art to the subject invention.

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In the unlikely event that the transmittal form is separated from this document and the Patent and Trademark Office determines that an extension and/or other relief (such as payment of a fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17 (p)) is required, Applicants petition for any required relief including extensions of time and authorize the Director to charge the cost of such petition and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to **Deposit Account No. 03-1952** referencing 393032024300.

Dated: November 16, 2005

Respectfully submitted,

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